

## House Republican Press Release

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### **Rep. Hamzy: Breast Cancer Bill Will Encourage At-Risk Women To Seek More Frequent Exams**



More women with family histories of breast cancer will be encouraged to get regular screening examinations to detect the disease in its early stages under a bill that received final legislative approval this week, state Representative William A. Hamzy, R-78<sup>th</sup> District, said today.

“Women whose family histories show a high incidence of breast cancer are at greater risk of contracting the disease and need to be tested more frequently and at an earlier age,” Representative Hamzy said. “This legislation will encourage women who are statistically more likely to become breast cancer victims to obtain comprehensive screening on a regular basis. It will help save thousands of lives. I was pleased to support it.”

“Although breast cancer is a serious disease, it can be treated effectively if it is detected in time. Governor M. Jodi Rell is living proof of the value of regular breast cancer screening. Several months ago, her physician detected a tumor during a routine examination. Because the cancer was discovered in its early stages, she was able to obtain the treatment she needed to prevent the spread of the disease,” Representative Hamzy said.

The measure (Senate Bill 30) would require health insurers to provide coverage for both mammography and magnetic resonance imaging as options for breast cancer screening for women with a family history of the disease, Representative Hamzy said. The bill was forwarded to Governor Rell to be signed into law.

“Governor Rell always has been in the forefront of efforts to publicize the need for regular breast cancer examinations and I am certain that she will sign this bill into law as soon as possible,” Representative Hamzy said.